

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims provided below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. – 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A cutting tool comprising:
a cutting head defining a central bore adapted to cut and retain a sample of material;
a plunger disposed in the bore defining a rod which is disposed in and movable along the bore, the plunger being either formed of a ferro-magnetic material or having a portion of ferro-magnetic material attached thereto; and
a solenoid disposed around the plunger or ~~electromagnetic~~ ferromagnetic material wherein operation of the solenoid causes the plunger to move to eject the ~~spot~~ sample of material from the cutting head.

7. (Currently Amended) A cutting tool comprising:
(a) a cutting tip means having a bore therethrough;
(b) a cutting tip holder for holding the cutting tip means;
(c) an ejector pin, one end of which is disposed in bore of the cutting tip, the pin being moveable along the bore of the cutting tip;
(d) a magnet or a piece of ferromagnetic material integral with or attached to the ejector pin distal from the one end;
(e) a solenoid disposed around the magnet or ferro magnetic material for causing the pin to move in the bore in a direction which expels material from the cutting tip when the solenoid is energised; and
(f) return means for causing the pin to move in the opposite direction when the solenoid is not energised.

8. (Previously Presented) The cutting tool of claim 7 wherein a magnet is attached to the ejector pin distal from the one end and wherein the return means is also a magnet.

9. (Previously Presented) The cutting tool of claim 7 wherein the return means is a spring.
10. (Previously Presented) The cutting tool of claim 7 wherein the cutting tip is removable and disposable.
11. (Previously Presented) The cutting tool of claim 7 wherein the cutting tool includes a body portion comprising a generally cylindrical tube defining a central bore, in which the solenoid is disposed, with the lower end of the bore being closed by the cutting tip holder.
12. (Currently Amended) The cutting tool of claim 7 wherein the cutting tip has an annular cross section with a wider cylindrical portion which locates inside of the central bore of the body portion and tapers in a generally conical fashion to a narrow portion which forms the cutting head, the tip being made of a translucent material ~~such as plastic or glass~~.